

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW ARIZONA THAUMAGLOSSA

(Coleoptera: Dermestidae)

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In the course of a study of the Dermestidae the writer found five specimens of a remarkably distinct species of *Thaumaglossa* Redtenbacher, which species is named and described as follows:

***Thaumaglossa libochoras* Beal, new species**

Adult male: Strongly convex, ovate, widest at humeri, rust-red on all surfaces; vestiture in length about three-fifths as long as scutellum, golden-brown, evenly distributed, moderately fine and moderately dense, suberect on dorsal surfaces, subrecumbent on ventral surfaces. *Head* in width (measured across eyes) closely approximating length of pronotum; punctures of front and clypeus round, shallow, about two and one-half times as coarse as facets of eye, nearly contiguous, becoming somewhat smaller and less dense on vertex; width between fossae for insertion of antennae closely equal to distance from distal margin of clypeus to basal margin of fossae; antennae with scape and funicle sparsely clothed with fine setae, eleventh segment densely clothed with fine, erect puberulence about equal in length to sixth antennal segment, configuration of antenna as illustrated, eleventh segment in repose extending over lateral lobe of prosternum as far as middle of procoxa. *Pronotum* with punctures of disc simple, equal in coarseness to facets of eye, separated by one to three diameters, becoming larger and nearly contiguous toward sides, surface between smooth and shining; ratio of length to width 1:2.1. *Elytra* with punctures of disc twice as coarse as facets of eye, separated by about one diameter with margin of each very slightly raised above surrounding surface, surface between feebly rugose and shining; ratio of pronotal width to elytral width at humeri 1:1.1. *Prosternum* deeply, coarsely, and confluent punctate on disc without impunctate median line, becoming granulate-punctate on sides. Antennal fossae occupying entire hypomeron; antero-lateral and posterior margins knifelike, evenly produced, and extending entire length of fossa; fossae completely open (without margins) medially; floor of cavity glabrous and shining, transversely strigose except for short longitudinal strigose lines along posterior wall. Mesosternal disc with punctation about as prosternal disc. *Length* (of pronotum and elytra): 3.1 mm.; *width* (across humeri): 2.1 mm.

Adult female: Color of head and pronotum piceous-black, elytra piceous-black except for rufo-piceous apical margins, thorax piceous, abdomen, antennae, and legs reddish-brown. Eleventh segment of antenna small, scarcely wider than tenth and about twice as long as length of ninth and tenth segments combined. Hypomeron margined as in male, but without fossa for reception of antenna, surface flat and coarsely punctate except for small impunctate depression at middle of medial margin, this depression not at all margined. *Length* (of pronotum and elytra): 3.8 mm.; *width* (across humeri): 2.6 mm.

Holotype: Male (in collection of Ohio State University) collect-

ed at PALMERLEE, ARIZONA, July 14, 19-?, by H. A. Wenzel; *allotype* female, same, July 11; female paratype, same, July 16; male paratype, same, July 10 (allotype and female paratype in collection of Ohio State University, male paratype in author's collection); one female paratype, Santa Rita Mts., Arizona, Hubbard and Schwarz (in collection of U. S. National Museum).

While clearly distinct from all known members of the genus, *libochoras* belongs to *Thaumaglossa* as now defined, having the strongly convex, ovate shape, the two, small, short, diagonal, impunctate areas on either side of the basal lobe of the pronotum, the completely divided mesosternal disc, and the oblique diagonal striae of the first abdominal segment, the male having the one extremely large, subsecurreiform, terminal, antennal segment, and the female having the flat but acutely margined hypomeron. It is undoubtedly most closely related to the other nearctic species, *americana* (Jayne), from which it differs most noticeably in the shape of the male terminal antennal segment, in the relatively denser punctation of the pronotum, and in its larger size. In specimens of *americana* measured by the writer the males vary in length from 1.9 mm. to 2.6 mm., the females from 2.2 mm. to 2.7 mm. While the color of the specimens above is uniform, color here as a character is probably neither reliable nor constant, the color of *americana* varying over a wide range.

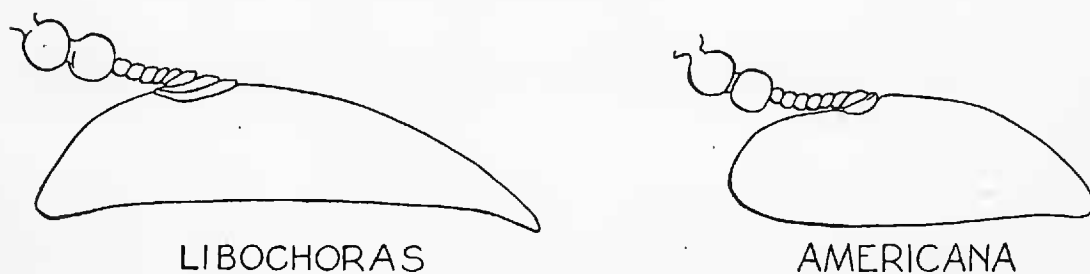


Fig. 1. Antennae of males of *Thaumaglossa*.

From the oriental *rufocapillata* Redtenbacher, type of the genus, both *libochoras* and *americana* differ markedly, the first species having at the antero-median angle of the hypomeron of the female a round, deep, and strongly margined fossa into which the antennal club exactly fits, and having an appreciably narrower separation between the fossae for the insertion of the antennae on the head. These characters hold likewise for two other oriental species seen by the writer, *nigricans* MacLeay and *hilleri* Reitter, and in any future revision of the genus should be carefully considered as indicating the divergence of our American species.